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CIA 1-04 Donovan, James B.
Bowers, F. Gary

Donovan Resigns As President of N.Y. School Board

NEW YORK — (AP) —

James B. Donovan, the attorney who became internationally known for his prisoner exchange negotiations, announced Monday his resignation as president of the city's integration-troubled Board of Education.

Donovan, 49, said he had agreed on his election last May to take the post for only one year. He suffered a heart attack last spring.

His resignation came on the eve of the board's annual meeting today for election of officers. Donovan said he would be willing to accept reelection temporarily to allow time for him to complete pending board matters, but would not serve beyond the end of June.

During his period in office, the board was embroiled in almost constant controversy over measures to step up integration.

Two major schools strikes by civil rights groups and one by a



James B. Donovan
... prisoner negotiator

predominantly white group took place.

Donovan first gained national prominence in 1962 when he negotiated a trade of Col. Rudolph Abel, convicted Russian spy, for Francis Gary Powers, the American U2 plane pilot shot down over Russia.

Later that year, Donovan arranged the exchange of medical supplies and farm equipment for prisoners captured in the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.